

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 8 and 11 have been amended. In light of at least the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

I. Claim Rejections under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c)

The Office Action rejects claims 8 and 11 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. Claims 8 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Restriction Requirement

The Office Action requires election of an invention under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of the following groups of claims: Group I: claims 1-7 drawn to a semiconductor device allegedly classified in class 257, subclass 704, and Group II: claims 8-16 drawn to a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device allegedly classified in class 438, subclass 125. Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-7, with traverse.

The Office Action asserts the Restriction Requirement is proper because the requirements set forth in MPEP 806.05(f) are met. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In response to the Office Action's allegation that the product of claim 1 can be made by a different process than set forth in claims 8 or 11, Applicant notes that the process feature of producing a cover with one groove having a depth smaller than the thickness of the cover is only an intermediate step. Further to the processes, it is required that sufficient thickness be removed from the rear face of the cover to uncover the glass in the groove (see Figures 11-13), thus allowing the groove to pass through the cover. The groove always must pass through the cover at the end of the process (first step of claim 8 and third step of claim 11) and the product requires the groove to pass through the cover (line 6 of claim 1).

Accordingly, the Office Action has failed to allege a materially different method as required by MPEP 806.05(f). Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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